

Congresswoman Slaughter played a crucial role in negotiating to make sure the following provisions were included in the Consumer Product Safety Act.:

- Mandatory standards for testing toys for potential hazards without undercutting the authority of the states to monitor these standards;
- Ban any specific phthalate implicated by sound scientific evidence that suggest harmful effects to children; and
- Establish strong safety standards for all terrain vehicles (ATVs), including both domestic and imported models.

In 2007, the Consumers Union dubbed the Year of the Recall. There were 45 million toys and children's products recalled in 2007 – including Barbie accessories, Thomas the Tank Engines, toy magnets, and lead-coated jewelry. Certain toys and children's products were found to contain nearly 200 times the legal amount of lead.

In 2008, dangerous toy and product recalls happened at an even swifter rate, with the number of recalls of toys and children's products up 29 percent over the first half of 2007. In late July 2008, the House and Senate passed the Consumer Product Safety Act. This critically important bill will strengthen the ability of the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) to prevent dangerous toys from getting to market in the first place, get unsafe products off the shelves more quickly, and increase fines and penalties for violating product safety laws. The bill will require publicly available and searchable database of on the safety of consumer products, provide state attorneys general with the ability to take appropriate actions against toys and manufacturers that are alleged to violate current law, establish strong safety standards for all terrain vehicles (ATVs), as well as provide whistleblower protections for employees of manufacturers, private labelers, retailers, and distributors with respect to alleged violations of Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC)-enforced product.